

For Immediate Release :: Wednesday 16 August, 2023

Anna Newell Theatre Adventures

in co-production with The Civic, Tallaght & in partnership with the national network of CYPSC (Children & Young People's Services Committees) and funded by the Arts Council of Ireland

presents

I AM BABA

A magical adventure of song, lights and textures for babies aged 0-12 months.



TOURS: Dublin / Clare / Kilkenny / Carlow / Donegal / Wexford / Laois / Louth / Meath / Roscommon / Kerry / Kildare / Mayo / Sligo / Galway / Waterford / Cork / Wicklow / Monaghan / Cavan :: 2 September – 10 December 2023

Internationally renowned theatre director Anna Newell and composer David Goodall tour their ever popular show for babies, *I Am Baba*, this Autumn. This simply astonishing theatre show is about identity, agency and personhood - for babies!. Making a 14 week tour and travelling to 20 counties across Ireland, where over 1,000 babies will experience this exceptional work in very different locations nationwide. These include the historic Gate Theatre, many arts centres and community venues countrywide, and even, for the first time, the Children's wards in Crumlin, Temple Street and Tallaght Hospitals.

I Am Baba is magical theatre adventure of song, lights and textures for babies aged between 0-12 months. Anna & David's shows for early years have been seen on six continents, off-Broadway and in every single Sure Start in Belfast.

Neuroscience tells us that what happens in the first three years of life doesn't simply affect behaviour, but has a major impact on brain formation. And Newell believes that it's crucial that some of those experiences are beautiful, lyrical, imaginative, creative. From the very beginning of life.

Created in 2017 as the International Early Childhood Arts Commission from the four Dublin Local Authorities through the Arts Council of Ireland's Invitation to Collaboration Scheme, I AM BABA has already toured all over Ireland, and has played over 500 shows to babies including a 2022 tour to Canada, performing at WeeFestival Arts &

Culture for Early Years in Toronto - a dedicated annual event of inspiring theatre and performing arts created especially for children 0-6 years and their families.

Touring for this show over the years has been in collaboration with diverse partners including venues across the country, the Katharine Howard Foundation and the national network of CYPSC (Children & Young People's Services Committees). For 2023, the show will make a first since its 2017 inception and will play at 3 hospital venues in partnership with Children's Health Ireland. In addition to the performances for the CYPSC and CHI service users, there are public dates in theatres and arts centres across the country. **Read more about it here:** cypsc.ie

Anna Newell is a Tonic Theatre Award winner (2017) for 'women who are changing the face of theatre and the performing arts' and a finalist of the Ellen Stewart International Award 2016 for 'theatre makers whose work with/for young people has a major social impact'.

CREATIVE TEAM:

Director - **Anna Newell**

Composer/Musical Director – **David Goodall**

Design – Jen Shepherd

Performed by – **Ailbhe Casey, Muireann D'Arcy, Fiona McGarry, Hilary Bowen-Walsh**

TOUR INFORMATION:

2, 3 & 9 September // **The Gate Theatre, Dublin** //

<https://www.gatetheatre.ie/production/gatecrashes-i-am-baba/>

5 September // **Glór, Ennis, Co Clare** // <https://glor.ie/events/i-am-baba/>

6 September // **Watergate Theatre, Kilkenny** // https://watergatetheatre.ie/watergate_events/i-am-baba/

7 September // **Wexford Arts Centre** //

<https://wexfordartscentre.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/873637729>

12 September // **Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise** // <https://www.dunamais.ie>

2 October // **Séamus Ennis Centre, Naul, Co Dublin** //

<https://tseac.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/873636893>

5 October // **An Táin, Dundalk, Co. Louth** // <https://www.antain.ie/event/i-am-baba/>

6 October // **An Droichead, Drogheda, Co. Louth** // <https://www.droichead.com>

28 October // **Siamsa Tíre, Tralee, Co Kerry** // <https://siamsatire.com/event/i-am-baba/>

31 October // **Axis Arts Centre, Ballymun, Dublin** //

<https://axisballymun.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173644641>

1 November // **Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge, Co. Kildare** //

<https://www.riverbank.ie/event/i-am-baba/2023-11-01/>

2 & 3 November // **The Civic, Tallaght** (off-site presentations) // <https://www.civictheatre.ie>

4 November // **Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar, Co. Mayo** // <http://www.thelinenhall.com>

12 November // **Town Hall Theatre, Galway** // <https://tth.ie>

17 November // West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen, Co Cork // <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/i-am-baba-tickets-666924197227>

*CYPSC tour dates are here: [Calendar of CYPSC-sponsored I AM BABA performance dates](#)

Suitability: 0-12 months

FURTHER INFO at: <https://www.annanewell.ie/work/i-am-baba/>

SOCIAL MEDIA:

FACEBOOK: @civictheatretallaght // @annanewelltheatreadventures

TWITTER: @CivicTheatre // @AnnaNewell

INSTAGRAM: @CivicTheatreTallaght // @annanewelltheatreadventures

YOUTUBE (Anna Newell):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChbk4jlhtgMYLW4N4zVnzvA>

HASHTAG: #IAmBaba

FOR FURTHER MEDIA INFORMATION & IMAGES PLEASE CONTACT:

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